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Erie L. Maldonado

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Attorney Docket No. SCEI 19.195 (100809-00099)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Teruaki HIGASHIHARA, et al.
Serial No.: 10/033,733
Filed: December 27, 2001
Title: OBJECTIVE LENS DRIVE DEVICE...
Examiner: Nabil Z. Hindi
Art Unit: 2653

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of documents listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

Also attached is a copy of a Japanese Office Action dated June 3, 2003 from the corresponding Japanese Patent Application. All of the documents listed in Form PTO- 1449 appear in the Japanese Office Action.

As these documents are written in a language other than English, English Language abstracts are annexed thereto explaining its relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

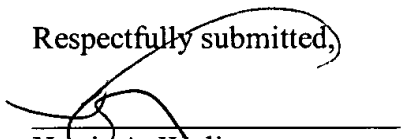
Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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U.S. Department of Commerce
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. : 10/033,733

Filing Date : December 27, 2001

First Named Inventor: T. HIGASHIHARA

Group Art Unit : 2653

Examiner Name : N.Z. HINDI

Attorney Docket No. : SCEI 19.195

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		09-282687	JP	SANKYO SEIKI MFG CO LTD	10/31/1997	
		05-314498	JP	FUJITSU LTD	11/26/1993	
		07-296403	JP	SONY CORP	11/10/1995	
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		11-167737	JP	SONY CORP	06/22/1999	
		05-266506	JP	SONY CORP	10/15/1993	
		63-276718	JP	HITACHI LTD	11/15/1988	
		07-235093	JP	SONY CORP	09/05/1995	
		10-214428	JP	CANON INC	08/11/1998	

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check her if English language translation attached
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